Long Knife Safety Bulletin
Pistol Negligent Discharge

Over the years pistol Negligent Discharges have killed, maimed and injured U.S. Soldiers when they were not handled correctly. Too often pistols are not given the same respect as carbines, rifles and other personal weapons. Pistols are designed to kill, and must be handled properly to prevent Negligent Discharge accidents. To ensure the safety of yourself and others when handling pistols:

- Always treat pistols with the same respect as any other weapon
- Always practice muzzle discipline - keep your pistol pointed in a safe direction and don't "flag" other personnel
- Always handle your pistol as if it were loaded
- Never "fool around" with a pistol. Don't engage in quick draw competitions, point it at other personnel, or play games with the weapon.
- Keep the pistol's selector switch on "Safe" until you are going to fire
- Check the position of your pistol's selector switch regularly. They can be moved by brushing against holsters & other gear.
- Ensure your pistol is in the correct arming status for the situation (Green, Amber or Red status)
- Keep your finger off the trigger unless you are about to fire at a range or in combat
- Always properly clear your pistol IAW USF-I clearing procedures